

REPORT

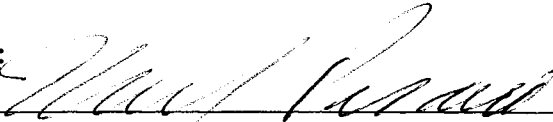
DATE: June 7, 2007

TO: Administrative Committee
Regional Council

FROM: Wayne Moore, Chief Financial Officer, 213-236-1804, moore@scag.ca.gov

SUBJECT: FHWA Grant for Integrating Transportation and Resource Planning to Develop Ecosystem Based Infrastructure Projects

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S APPROVAL:



RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Authorize SCAG to apply for, and if awarded, accept, FHWA grant funds for the program entitled "Integrating Transportation and Resource Planning to Develop Ecosystem Based Infrastructure Projects."

BACKGROUND:

This grant will fund projects aimed at the integration of infrastructure and ecological planning efforts to develop ecosystem based approaches for transportation related efforts that may be used as case studies and best practices to be promoted nationwide. The grant funding supports the requirements of current transportation legislation, the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU), which specifically incorporates environmental planning factors in the statewide and metropolitan planning process, and requires that transportation planning agencies consult, as appropriate, with natural resource planning and protection agencies to coordinate and compare planning efforts and products.

Eligible project activities include:

- Partnering and Data – partnership building by convening multiple agencies and stakeholders; data sharing, data gathering
- Integration of Conservation and Transportation Planning – resource assessment to identify the most critical conservation areas; conservation planning; integrated planning; ecosystem mitigation
- Performance Monitoring – to assess ecosystem health and stewardship, development of performance measures and monitoring systems; agency performance measures development

The maximum amount for each grant is \$100,000, with one million dollars to be awarded nationwide. Applications are due June 22, 2007, with funding to be awarded September 14, 2007. Eligible applicants include any state or local entity. These monies would expand the funding

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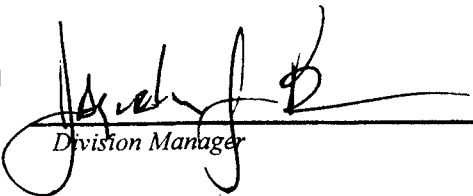
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available to SCAG for transportation-related, environmental planning activities. A 50% match, either cash or in-kind support, is required for this grant and SCAG will work with partner agencies to obtain the required matching funds.

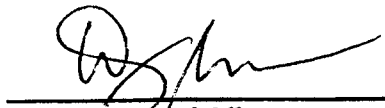
FISCAL IMPACT:

If awarded, the grant funds and the required associated match will be included in SCAG's Comprehensive Budget to conduct the approved project.

Reviewed
by:


Division Manager

Reviewed
by:


Chief Financial Officer